

Amendments to the Drawings:

An attached drawing sheet includes a new Fig. 4 which is proposed in response to the requirement for a new drawing. Proposed Fig. 4 is discussed in the Remarks section of this response.

REMARKS

Two copies of a proposed Fig. 4 are being filed herewith. One copy has a handwritten legend at the top which reads "Proposed Fig. 4, March, 2005". The applicants appreciate the suggestions in the December 29 Official action. It is believed that they have been followed, so that the proposed drawing should be acceptable.

Amended claim 26 is believed to be in condition for allowance. The amendment adds the limitation of previous claim 29, which was held to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Amended claim 26 is the equivalent of claim 29, so amended. Claims 27, 28, 31 and 32 are dependent upon claim 26 and, therefore, are also allowable. All of the claims are now believed to be allowable (in the language of the December 29 Official action) "since the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a method including the step of holding loopers and/or hooks in an extended position to hold the loops until later in a tufting cycle."

Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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